

St James Early Learning Center

September 2021

Transition

Be patient, be caring and be supportive

Transitions are difficult for children to understand. It can best be compared to starting a new job. Remember how you felt on the first day of your new job? Were you a little nervous? Worried about whether you would do things the way your new "boss" would want? Did you spend hours picking out just the right outfit? Were you anxious about meeting your new co-workers? The children worry about the same things that we do, but often cannot identify the feelings on their own. As your child begins to transition next week think about how this makes you feel and communicate these feelings with your child so that they know they are not alone.

Children move out of their comfort zone and away from trusted caregivers whom they have built relationships with and bonded. Children transition better when they are prepared, no matter how young. Explain to them what is going to occur, let them know they will be going into new classroom, school, walking or riding a bus to school and seeing unfamiliar faces. They may be unsure about all these new things, but reassure them that these changes are good, it means they are growing up! Provide your child with as much information as you can to help better prepare them for what is about to happen.

It is important to give yourself and your child a chance to get comfortable with their new routine and to bond with the new caregivers/teachers. This process will not always happen instantly. Give time for the new relationship to develop between you, your child and caregiver/teacher. Everyone has their own way of adjusting to new situation and routines. Understand that this is part of the transition process, by leaving one caregiver, classroom or school and moving on to another.

Be supportive, attentive, and nurturing as your child's behavior may change over the next few weeks. Their normal routine has changed. They are learning a new routine and have different expectations from their new rooms. It will take a child six to eight weeks to fully transition to their new surroundings and routines. Within those six to eight weeks children must learn to trust new people, make new friends, adapt to a new set of classroom rules, and adjust to new routines. Remember that becoming comfortable in a new classroom is an ongoing process, not just a single event. Be patient, be caring and supportive. Children learn through consistent experiences that each goodbye, as hard as it may be, is followed by our happy return.

Reminder... We will be **CLOSED** on **Sept. 6** for Labor Day



Making Transitions Successful

- **Be Positive** Children have incredible intuitive skills. They sense our anxiety and hesitation. As the first day for transition draws near, begin talking to your child about what to expect and about any concerns or fears they might have. Present school as a place where he/ she will learn new things and make friends.
- **Make a Connection between Home and School** The little things from home may make our children feel more comfortable: a blanket, a stuffed animal. Photographs also help or create a little photo album.
- **Establish a Drop-Off Ritual** Developing a quick, simple way to say "good-bye" and reassuring our children that we will return will help separation go more smoothly. Sneaking out creates a sense of mistrust.
- **Tune-In to Your Child's Behavior** During times of change, our children may have behavior regressions, delayed reactions or even.

Giving Spree

November 5, 2021

The Adams County Community Foundation connects donors to groups and organizations through their Annual Giving Spree. This year the ELC is one of 85 organizations selected to participate! Please let your families, friends and employers know who is looking for a local organization to support!

Early Learning programs have taken a huge financial risk during Covid with increasing demands for supplies, reduced enrollment and increasing staff to enable social distancing and small groups.

St. James Lutheran Church Early Learning Center needs their support! Funds raised will support our scholarship fund, staff training, technology and equipment and learning materials! Please let me know if you have any questions.

Donors have three ways to give:

1. Drop off gifts at the Gettysburg Times on November 5 from 1pm to 5pm
2. Mail gifts using the donation form to arrive by November 5. Form available September 15.
3. Give online at ACCFGivingSpree.org on November 5

Look whats coming..



We are thrilled to announce that we are launching a new and exciting program called **HiMama!**



What is HiMama?

HiMama will be used by our educators to record activities and to document updates throughout the day.



What will HiMama do for me?

HiMama will keep you in the loop- all day long! Whether it be at work, home, or on the go through HiMama's mobile app, you'll never miss a moment!



Amazing! What should I do next?

You can download "HiMama - The Childcare App". Check your email inbox - we'll be sending your invitation shortly!



The school year is about to begin! St James Participates in Scholastic Books! Flyers to come OR visit their page: <https://clubs.scholastic.com/>

Our Center Code:
GZT46



Kids Club Summer Camp

We had a great time this year in our summer program. Ms. Amanda, Ms. Jess, and Ms. Abby kept us busy all summer. We enjoyed many different activities throughout Gettysburg. We participated in community events with the Adam's County Arts Council & Adams County. We finished out our summer going to Magic Elm and Hickory Falls.

